



Renewable Energy Workshops Focus On Helping Hoosiers Set Their Own Energy Strategy

For Immediate Release

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(Indianapolis)---Homeowners watching their energy bills continue to increase could find a way to reduce those bills through a series of workshops on renewable energy being offered through the Indiana Office of Energy Development. These workshops, planned for a variety of locations across Indiana will provide basic information on Solar Domestic Hot Water Systems, Photovoltaic solar systems, and residential wind power. The workshops are free.

“There is a huge amount of interest in alternative power systems in Indiana,” said Brandon Seitz, Director of the Indiana Office of Energy Development. “These workshops will give those who attend the basics they’ll need to determine if these renewable energy systems are right for them.”

The **Solar Domestic Hot Water Systems** workshops will cover the most popular types of solar collectors, construction, mounting and efficiency ratings. The workshop will also outline the components of solar water heating systems focusing on ICS, closed loop antifreeze and drainback systems.

Participants in the **Basic Photovoltaics** workshop will learn to define PV, understand how PV works, identify the four PV system types, describe and identify components, understand the best application and limitations of each system type, define the solar window, understand energy efficiency and load estimates, identify PV mounting types and understand the basics of site assessment tools.

The **Residential Wind** workshop is designed for people who have an interest in residential size wind systems for their home or business. This course will teach what wind energy is, how it

works and what it can do for them. Topics will include: wind resources, basic system components, system types, turbine types, applications and tower types.

The workshops are conducted by instructors from the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA). MREA promotes renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable living through education and demonstration. MREA instructors conduct more than 100 similar workshops each year.

Workshop	Date	Location
Solar Domestic Hot Water	1/22/09	Muncie
	1/23/09	Ft. Wayne
	2/19/09	Evansville
	2/20/09	Bloomington
Basic Photovoltaics	2/03/09	South Bend
	2/04/09	Ft. Wayne
	2/24/09	Madison
	2/25/09	Vincennes
Residential Wind	3/17/09	Ft. Wayne
	3/18/09	South Bend
	3/31/09	West Lafayette
	4/01/09	Bloomington

All workshops are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with an hour break for lunch. No food will be provided. Registrants will be given details on locations. Each participant will receive take home materials about the subject. To register, Contact Cris Dorman, OED Coordinator for Public Outreach and Education by phone, (317) 690-7243 or email cdorman@oed.in.gov. Space for each workshop is limited.

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The Office of Energy Development (OED) was created in December 2005 as an extension of the Indiana energy office. Under the leadership of Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, OED is responsible for the state's energy policy. For more information visit www.energy.in.gov.

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